

Appl. No. 10/731,497  
Response to Office Action mailed September 28, 2004

Att'y Dkt. No. 114726-008

### LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the patent application.

Claim 1 (original): An apparatus for sewing a slide fastener chain onto a cloth piece in which a slide fastener chain supplied continuously is successively sewn onto a pair of cloth pieces having an optional size, comprising:

- a table on which a sewing machine is provided and which guides the cloth pieces during sewing;

- a cutting section having chain cutting means for cutting the fastener chain between the cloth pieces having the fastener chain sewn by the sewing machine, moved continuously over the table and suspending from a front end of the table; and

- a sewn product receiving section having sewn product transfer means for receiving, in a lower part, a sewn product cut away by the cutting means from the succeeding cloth piece having the fastener chain sewn thereonto and transferring the sewn product to a rear end of the table through a lower space portion of the table.

Claim 2 (original): The sewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the table includes:

- a sewing section having an upward inclined surface;

- a cloth piece transfer section having a downward inclined surface which is provided continuously with the sewing section; and

- a suspending and guiding section for suspending and guiding the cloth piece from a front edge of the cloth piece transfer section.

Claim 3 (original): The sewing apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

- a cloth piece delivery section for energizing toward the suspending and guiding section and controllably rotating synchronously with a sewing speed of the sewing section.

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Claim 4 (original): The sewing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:  
front edge detecting means for detecting front edge of the cloth piece; and  
length measuring means for measuring the cloth piece,  
wherein the front edge detecting means and the length measuring means are provided in a transfer path of the cloth piece.

Claim 5 (original): The sewing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the cutting means operates after the length measuring means starts a measurement based on a detection signal of the front edge which is sent from the front edge detecting means and a predetermined length is measured by the length measuring means.

Claim 6 (original): The sewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the sewing product receiving section, which operates every time the sewn product is received, moves the sewn product transfer means to a discharge section of the rear end of the table to discharge the sewn product and then returns to a receiving portion.

Claim 7 (original): The sewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the sewn product receiving section has holding and releasing means for holding and releasing the cloth piece to reciprocate between a portion placed below the front end of the table and a portion placed below the rear end of the table.

Claim 8 (original): The sewing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the sewn product receiving section includes:

- a rotating belt provided under the table in a longitudinal direction;
- a first holding and releasing member fixed to a part of the belt and extended in a transverse direction of the table;
- a first cylinder fixed to the first holding and releasing member; and
- a second holding and releasing member which is supported on the first cylinder and is provided adjacently and opposite to a cloth piece holding surface of the first holding and releasing member.

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Claim 9 (original): The sewing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the sewn product receiving section further includes:

- a fixed support base provided under the table and extended in a transverse direction of the table from an adjacent portion to a forward part;

- a third cylinder supported on the fixed support base;

- a third holding and releasing member supported on the third cylinder and provided adjacently and opposite to a cloth piece holding surface of the first holding and releasing member on a forward side of the table; and

- a second holding and releasing member which is supported on the first cylinder and is provided adjacently and opposite to a cloth piece holding surface of the first holding and releasing member on a rear side of the table.

Claim 10 (original): The sewing apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising:

- a second cylinder fixed to the second holding and releasing member; and

- a second cloth end holding surface supported on the second cylinder and provided adjacently and opposite to the cloth piece holding surface of the first holding and releasing member.

Claim 11 (original): The sewing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the cutting section has a counter for counting the number of operations of the cutting means, and

the sewn product receiving section, which operates when the counter counts a predetermined number, moves the sewn product transfer means to a discharge section of the rear end in a lower part of the table to discharge the sewn product and then returns to a receiving portion for the sewn product.